

Side #1: Franz & Frau Schmidt

FRANZ. Who wanted me on the telephone?

FRAU SCHMIDT. It was the post office. They've got a telegram for you. It will be delivered at seven o'clock.

FRANZ. Seven o'clock? That gives me five hours to be nervous.

FRAU SCHMIDT. *(Going up the stairs.)* With that scatter rained boy delivering telegrams -

FRANZ. Well, that's one thing people are saying - if the Germans did take over Austria, we'd have efficiency.

FRAU SCHMIDT. Don't let the Captain hear you say that. *(The CAPTAIN whistles offstage.)* He didn't whistle for us when his wife was alive.

FRANZ. He's being the captain of a ship again.

(The CAPTAIN whistles again.)

FRAU SCHMIDT. I can't bear being whistled for - it's humiliating.

FRANZ. In the Imperial Navy, the bosun always whistled for us.

FRAU SCHMIDT. But I wasn't in the Imperial Navy.

FRANZ. Too bad. You could have made a fortune.

Side #2: Maria and Children

MARIA. *(Crosses to the CAPTAIN.)* Thank you, Captain. I forgot to return this whistle, Captain. I won't need it, Captain.

(The CAPTAIN takes the whistle and exits. MARIA turns to the CHILDREN with a hand clap, catching them off guard.)

Well, now that there's just us, would you tell me your names again and tell me how old you are. Now you're -?

(Each CHILD, in turn, steps forward in military manner, speaks, and then steps back.)

LIESL. I'm Liesl. I'm sixteen years old and I don't need a governess.

MARIA. I'm glad you told me. We'll just be friends.

FRIEDRICH. I'm Friedrich. I'm fourteen. I'm a boy.

MARIA. Boy? Why, you're almost a man.

LOUISA. I'm Brigitta.

MARIA. You didn't tell me how old you are, Louisa.

BRIGITTA. I'm Brigitta. She's Louisa and she's thirteen years old and you're smart. I'm nine and I think your dress is the ugliest one I ever saw.

KURT. Brigitta, you mustn't say a thing like that.

BRIGITTA. Why not? Don't you think it's ugly?

KURT. If I did think so, I wouldn't say so. *(Snapping to attention.)* I'm Kurt, I'm eleven - almost.

MARIA. That's a nice age to be, eleven - almost.

MARTA. *(Steps forward left of MARIA, pulling her skirt.)* I'm Marta and I'm going to be seven on Tuesday and I'd like a pink parasol.

MARIA. Pink is my favorite color, too.

(GRETEL steps forward and stamps her foot.)

And you're Gretl.

Side #3: All Children Side

MARIA. I'm going to tell you something. I've never been a governess before. How do I start?

CHILD. (*Runs to MARIA.*) You mean you don't know anything about being a governess?

MARIA. No.

CHILD. (*Above chair, picking up guitar case.*) What's in here?

MARIA. My guitar.

CHILD. What did you bring this for?

MARIA. For when we all sing together.

CHILD. We don't sing.

MARIA. Of course, you sing. Everybody sings. What songs do you know?

CHILD. We don't know any songs.

MARIA. You don't?

CHILDREN. No. How do we start?

Side #4: Liesl and Rolf

LIESL. Good night, Rolf.

ROLF. (*Walking on with his bicycle.*) Liesl!

LIESL. Yes?

ROLF. You don't have to say good night this early just because your father's home.

LIESL. How did you know my father was home?

ROLF. Oh, I have a way of knowing things.

LIESL. You're wonderful.

ROLF. Oh no, I'm not - really.

LIESL. Oh, yes, you are. I mean - how did you know two days ago that you would be here at just this time tonight with a telegram for Franz?

ROLF. Every year on this date he always gets a birthday telegram from his sister.

LIESL. You see - you *are* wonderful.

ROLE. Can I come again tomorrow night?

LIESL. (*Sitting on the bench.*) Rolf, you can't be sure you're going to have a telegram to deliver here tomorrow night.

ROLF. (*Sitting beside her.*) I could come here by mistake - with a telegram for Colonel Schneider. He's here from Berlin. (*Suddenly concerned.*) No one's supposed to know he's here. Don't you tell your father.

LIESL. Why not?

ROLF. Well, your father's pretty Austrian.

LIESL. We're all Austrian.

ROLF. Some people think we ought to be German.

LIESL. (*Rising.*) Don't worry about Father. He was decorated for bravery.

ROLF. I know. I don't worry about him. The only one I worry about is his daughter.

Side #5: Elsa and Captain

ELSA. *(Taking the CAPTAIN'S arm.)* Georg, those mountains - they're magnificent!

CAPTAIN. Yes, they're not like any other mountains - they're friendly. Look, that green stretch of woods over there - when the wind moves through it, it's like a restless sea.

ELSA. And that sweet little village.

CAPTAIN. That's not a village. That's a town.

ELSA. Oh, I'm sorry - I didn't mean to hurt its feelings.

CAPTAIN. It's fun being with you. You're quite an experience for me.

ELSA. You're quite an experience for me, too. Somewhere in you there's a fascinating man. Occasionally I catch a glimpse of him, and when I do, he's exciting.

CAPTAIN. Exciting? I've never been called exciting before.

ELSA. I'm beginning to understand you better now that I see you here. You know, you're a little like those mountains - - except that you keep moving. How can you be away from this place as much as you are?

CAPTAIN. Maybe I've been searching for a reason to come back here to stay.

ELSA. Georg, I like it here very much.

CAPTAIN. *(Embarrassed.)* Max can't still be on the telephone. *(He crosses away from her.)* I know he's desperate about getting singers for the Kaltzberg Festival but –

(To ELSA.) You like it here?

ELSA. Yes.

Side #6: Max and Elsa

(**MAX DETWEILER** enters. *He is charming and vital.*)

MAX. I'm sorry I took so long.

ELSA. Any luck?

MAX. How would you like this for the Kaltzberg Festival – the finest choral group in Austria, the greatest mixed quartet in all Europe, and the best soprano in the world?

ELSA. Max, that's something I'd love to hear!

MAX. So would I. All I've got up to now is a basso who isn't even profundo.

ELSA. Max, you always come up with a good festival concert.

MAX. And why? Because my motto is: "Never start out looking for the people you wind up getting." That's why I've been telephoning Paris, Rome, Stockholm, London...

ELSA. On Georg's telephone?

MAX. How else could I afford it? Why am I up here?

ELSA. I hoped it was because you liked him.

MAX. Of course, I like him. Why shouldn't I like him? He lives like a king! I like rich people. I like the way they live. I like the way I live when I'm with them.

Side #7: Maria and Captain

CAPTAIN. My children have always been a credit to my name.

MARIA. But, Captain, they weren't. They were just unhappy little marching machines.

CAPTAIN. I don't care to hear from you about my children.

MARIA. Well, you must hear from someone. You're not home long enough to know them.

CAPTAIN. I said I don't want to hear -

MARIA. I know you don't - but you've got to. Take Liesl - Liesl isn't a child anymore. And if you keep treating her as one, Captain, you're going to have a mutiny on your hands. And Friedrich - Friedrich's afraid to be himself - he's shy - he's aloof, Friedrich needs you - he needs your confidence -

CAPTAIN. Don't tell *me* about my *son*.

MARIA. Brigitta could tell you about him. She could tell you a lot more if you got to know her, because she notices things. And she always tells the truth - especially when you don't want to hear it. Kurt - is sensitive - he's easily hurt - and you ignore him - you brush him aside the way you do all of them.

(The CAPTAIN starts to leave.)

I haven't finished yet! Louisa - wants to have a good time. You've just got to let her have a good time. Marta --I don't know about yet - but someone has to find out about her. And little Gretl - just wants to be loved... Oh, please, Captain, love Gretl, love all of them. They need you.

CAPTAIN. Stop! Stop it! You will pack your things and return to the abbey as soon as you can.

MARIA. I'm sorry, I shouldn't have said those things - not in the way I said them.

Side #8: Mother Abbess and Maria

MOTHER ABBESS. Why did they send you back to us?

MARIA. *(After a moment's hesitation.)* They didn't send me back. I left. I left without telling them I was going - without saying goodbye.

MOTHER ABBESS. Sit down, Maria. *(A moment.)* Maria, what happened? Why did you do this?

MARIA. I was frightened.

MOTHER ABBESS. Frightened?

MARIA. *(With difficulty.)* I was confused. I felt - never felt that way before. I couldn't stay - and I knew that here I would be away from it - that here I would be safe.

MOTHER ABBESS. Maria, our abbey is not to be used as an escape. What is it you can't face?

MARIA. I can't face him again.

MOTHER ABBESS. *(After a pause.)* Maria, are you in love with Captain von Trapp?

MARIA. *(Torn.)* I don't know. I don't know.

MOTHER ABBESS. Tell me about it, my child.

MARIA. *(With emotion.)* Brigitta said that I was - and that her father was in love with me - and then here he was - and we were looking at each other - and I could hardly breathe. Then I knew I couldn't stay.

MOTHER ABBESS. But you do like him, Maria?

MARIA. Oh, yes!

MOTHER ABBESS. My daughter, if you love this man, it doesn't mean that you love God less. You must find out. You must go back.

MARIA. *(Rising.)* Oh, no, Mother, please, don't ask me to do that. Please! Let me stay here.

MOTHER ABBESS. These walls were not made to shut out problems. You have to face them. You have to find the life you were born to live.

Side #9: Captain and Maria

MARIA. I'm sorry if I said something I shouldn't have said.

CAPTAIN. You did say the wrong thing - but you said it at the right time.

MARIA. The children told me that you were going to marry Frau Schraeder.

CAPTAIN. We found we just couldn't go the same way. That door is shut.

MARIA. Sister Margaretta always says, "When God shuts a door -"

CAPTAIN. I know - "He opens a window." Maria, why did you run away to the abbey? What made you come back?

MARIA. The Mother Abbess - she said that you have to look for your life.

CAPTAIN. Often when you find it, you don't recognize it.

MARIA. No.

CAPTAIN. Not at first. Then one day - one night - all of a sudden, it stands before you.

MARIA. Yes.

CAPTAIN. I look at you now and I realize this is not something that has just happened. It is something I've known - deep inside me - for many weeks. You knew it, too. (*MARIA nods.*) What was it that told you?

MARIA. Brigitta. She said - when we were dancing - that night -

CAPTAIN. She was quite right. That was not just an ordinary dance, was it?

MARIA. I hadn't danced since I was a very little girl. It's quite different after you're grown-up, isn't it?

CAPTAIN. Your whole life will be different now, Maria. I'll take you anywhere you want to go - give you anything you wish.

MARIA. But I don't want to go anywhere. All I could wish for...is right here.